



Office of  
Deputy Commissioner  
of Maritime Affairs

# THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

## LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY

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**January 03, 2023**

### **MARINE SECURITY ADVISORY – 11/2022**

**Subject: Removal of the Indian Ocean High Risk Area (HRA)**

**Reference:** (a) [MSC 106/INF.10](#)  
(b) [MSC 106/19](#)

**Dear Owners/Operators/Company Security Officers/Masters:**

The Shipping Industry Groups, i.e. International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), INTERCARGO, INTERTANKO, Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF), Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) and International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA), after reviewing the security situation in the Indian Ocean and Southern Red Sea submitted document [MSC 106/INF.10](#) to the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) providing notice of the industry's intention to remove the Indian Ocean High Risk Area (HRA) based on what was termed as reduction in the piracy situation in the area over a significant period of time. The document was noted by MSC, and as such the Indian Ocean HRA as shown on [UKHO Chart Q6099](#) will be removed from the shipping industry's list of HRAs from January 1, 2023.

However, the Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) administered by UKMTO has not changed. Ships entering the VRA are encouraged to report to the UKMTO and register with the Maritime Security Centre for the Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) in accordance with industry BMP (Best Management Practices).

Best Management Practices 5 ([BMP5](#)) will continue to provide the necessary guidance for shipping to ensure threat and risk assessments are developed for every voyage to mitigate the risks presented by remaining security threats in the region. The shipping industry will continue to monitor and advise on maritime security threats to assist the safe transit of vessels and the seafarers.

The Liberian Administration strongly recommends that Vessels Owners, Characters, Operators and Ships Masters continue to carry out pre-voyage threat and risk assessments to consider the latest maritime security information from organizations supporting the VRA, including use of [privately contracted security personnel](#), as deemed necessary.

For more information please contact the Security Department at telephone + 1 703 790 3434, email [security@lisr.com](mailto:security@lisr.com)

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